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The big south window of our sitting-room looks across a wide stretch of fair country to a shining river many miles away, and we may see trains and steamers from the lake coming and going from the two towns in sight, and thus we touch the busy world and yet are not of it.

(To be continued.)

THE SOUGHT GRAIL

ONE said, let me seek in the weary wold
For the mystical, magical cup of gold—
The cup that our Master touched, when He
Sate feasting at eve in the upper room,
And while as an omen of instant gloom
The shadow was seen of “the shameful tree.”
There John and Andrew and Petrus saw,
And they touched the cup with a reverent awe.

Then answered another and said, I say
That, wherever the yearning of love makes way,
Whoso blesses the gifts of God
Has found the path that the Master trod,
And whoso utters the words He said—
“This day give us our daily bread”—
Has touched with finger the cup of gold;
Then what if he never the chalice hold?

And then another was heard to say,
There is ever a good and a better way.
It is little to us who His bidding do
To search for a chattel the whole world through;
For love and wisdom and life shall fail
And many may miss of the holy grail,
Yet a kindly deed with a kindly word
Do hallow the commonest cup conferred.
Can charity ever its purpose fail,
Since the chalice of love is the holy grail?

Yet I thought that I still would fain behold
That mystical, magical cup of gold—
The cup that our Master touched when He
In the “upper room” with the “two or three”
Drank of the mingled mystic wine,
With you and with me and with yours and mine.

HENRY CLARK.